

Trying to hide from God? You can't beat Him in a game of hide and seek



America's Heartland
Roger Alford
 RogerAlford1@GMail.Com

change our signs to say simply, 'the bridge is out.'"

I've found that simple is better when it comes to communicating. But, try as we might, we still encounter people, like the driver in that story, who just won't heed a warning. Jesus certainly knows that. In fact, he talked about people whose ears were dull of hearing and whose eyes do not see. He wasn't talking about people who needed hearing aids and glasses. He was talking about people who purposely choose not to see or hear anything about things eternal. Then Jesus looked at his followers and said: "'But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear' (Matthew 13:16).

Franklin Roosevelt was known to make himself available to White House visitors, exchanging short greetings with people as they walked through. He felt certain no one really paid attention to what he said in those times.

So the story goes, he

tried an experiment one day during a reception. As people made their way through the receiving line to shake his hand, he'd mutter: "I murdered my grandmother this morning." The guests would say things like, "Marvelous! Keep up the good work." "We are proud of you." "God bless you, sir." The last guy in the line did hear his words and responded with: "I'm sure she had it coming."

Here's the thing. We need to listen to the Lord, because, if we hear the Gospel and respond, we will be saved, for the Bible says, "Those who hear my words and believe in him who sent me have eternal life" (John 5:24).

But if we refuse to hear or respond to the Gospel, we have no hope of salvation. We'd be much like the driver who cursed the pastors standing on the roadside with their signs. We'd be on our way to destruction.

I'm glad so many of you were willing to hear and believe the Gospel.

Two pastors stood on the side of the highway, each holding hand-written signs.

One sign said, "Turn around before it's too late."

The other said, "The end of the road is near."

Some rascal slowed down just enough to yell out his window, giving the pastors a good cussing and telling them to go home. Moments later, the pastors heard the man's brakes squealing and a big splash.

That's when one looked at the other and said, "Maybe we should

BBQ Joints



Times Remembered
Betty A. Young

BYoung505@Outlook.com

What's your favorite barbeque joint? Southerners may not agree on which restaurant serves the best cue, but we are very passionate in our opinions. The South has many barbeque restaurants.

In my opinion, the Que Restaurant on River Drive in Irvine is my #1 choice for the best barbeque around. Previously, I would have said The Feed Store on Shelbyville Road just outside Louisville was my favorite que place. But honestly the Que is better.

Actually, we have been going to The Feed Store since Tara was playing softball in high school. The restaurant was just up the road from the softball field and we went there several times to eat during the Mercy Softball tournament

many years ago. It had remained my favorite until I started eating at the Que.

When we are on vacation, we like to find favorite BBQ places to eat. These are some famous ones in different states. In Alabama: Dreamland, Arkansas: McClard's, Florida: 4 Rivers Smokehouse, Georgia: Southern Soul, Kentucky: Old Hickory, Louisiana: The Joint, Mississippi: The Shad, North Carolina: Buxton Hall, South Carolina: Rodney Scott's, and Tennessee: Peg Leg Porker. Memphis, Tennessee is also a great place for BBQ. I've ate at Neely's in Memphis before. It was very good.

According to Southern Living Magazine, Southern Soul Barbeque at St. Simons Island, Georgia was voted #1 in last year's voting. They are noted for their Georgia style pulled pork, tangy ribs and smoked chicken wings cooked on hardwood fired pits. It's a laid back coastal vibe.

#2 is Lexington Barbeque in Lexington, North Carolina. They have been cooking Piedmont NC pork shoulders over hickory in closed brick pits since 1962. North Carolina people used vin-

egar in their barbeque.

#3 is 4 Rivers Smokehouse in Winter Park, Florida. They slow cook smoked briskets to a Memphis Style pulled pork. They have grown from a single restaurant into a barbeque empire with 14 locations now.

#4 is Dreamland Bar-B-Que in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. "Big Daddy," prepares his smoked ribs and pulled pork and serves it with white bread and orange sauce. The restaurant was started in 1958 by John 'Big' Daddy Bishop.

#5 Mac's Barbeque in Skiatook, Oklahoma. Their barbeque is pork and ribs smoked with hickory wood on Old Hickory Pits. Founded in 1985 by Millian and Adam Green carries on the smoked BBQ tradition today.

So that rounds out the top five. I suppose no one knows how many BBQ Joints across America; the owners/mangers declare that theirs is the best.

We haven't went on vacation this year yet, but I'm sure going to try and visit some of these BBQ Joints across the South in October. Wouldn't be fun to eat at all of them! All in all, it's a worthy bucket list for any Southern barbeque fan.

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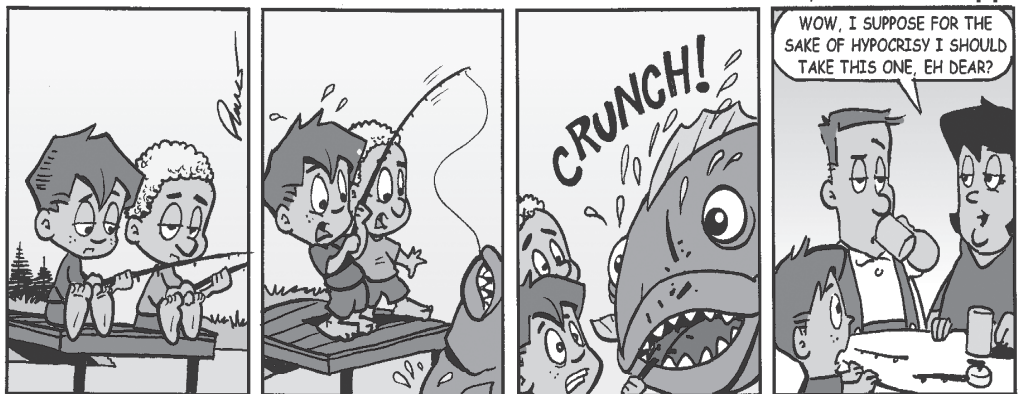
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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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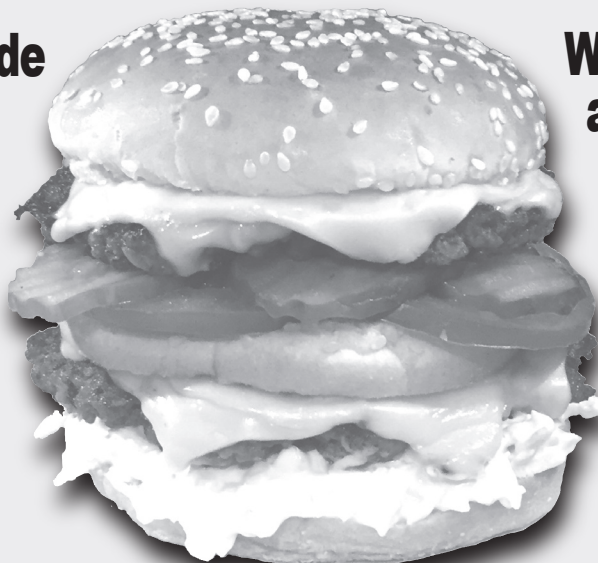


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